

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the title to read as follows:

IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS WITH MODE HAVING PROLONGED ROTATION
TIME OF IMAGE BEARING MEMBER AT NON-IMAGE FORMING TIME.

Please amend the following paragraph starting at page 1, line 24 and ending at page 2, line 6 with:

Further, the above-mentioned contact charging apparatuses have a DC application system (what is called a DC charging system) in which a voltage to be applied includes only a direct-current component and an AC+DC application system (what is called a AC charging system) in which both an alternating component and a direct-current component are applied. The DC charging system and the AC charging system each include a constant current system and a constant voltage system.

Please amend the following paragraph starting at page 4, line 12 and ending at page 4, line 25 with:

The AC charging system is more advantageous for obtaining stable charging property with the above-described simple structure. However, on the contrary, in the AC charging system, the surface of the image bearing member, which serves as a member to be cleaned, vibrates due to the applied AC component, chattering of the cleaning member develops, and thus, a transfer residual developer becomes difficult to be removed by cleaning means, which may lead to a case where cleaning property of the image bearing member is not sufficiently obtained. In particular, when a spherical developer is used, there may be a case where a collecting property of the cleaning member is not sufficiently obtained.

Please amend the following paragraph starting at page 12, line 20 and ending at page 13, line 8 with:

That is, after the secondary transfer in a secondary transferring portion, the developer remaining on the intermediate transferring body 5 is applied with a bias having an opposite polarity to that in an image forming region on the intermediate transferring body 5 (also, opposite polarity to a charging polarity of the photosensitive drum 1) by means of the charge imparting roller 13 which is structured so as to be abutted ~~with/~~ separated with/separated from the intermediate transferring body 5 at predetermined timing, and then, is discharged from the intermediate transferring body 5 to the photosensitive drum 1. The developer, which has been discharged onto the photosensitive

drum 1, is removed by the cleaning blade 11 before the formation of the next image is started.

Please amend the following paragraph starting at page 13, line 23 and ending at page 14, line 8 with:

Here, "forward rotation" in Figs. 3A and 3B indicates a duration in which, when an image forming (print job) starting signal is input to the image forming apparatus in a standby (waiting) state, a main motor is driven in accordance with the input signal to perform an operation preceding image forming of a required processing apparatus. More practically, the duration involves the sequence of: (1) reception of the image-forming starting signal by the image forming apparatus; (2) development of an image with a formatter ([A]) a development time varies depending on an image data amount or processing speed of the formatter[.]); and (3) start of a forward rotation step.

Please amend the following paragraph starting at page 14, line 9 and ending at page 14, line 23 with:

Further, "backward rotation" indicates a duration in which the main motor is continuously driven to perform the operation after image forming of the required processing apparatus even after a recording material, on which an image has been formed, is output (completion of image forming) in the case of the image forming with only one

sheet or after a recording material, on which the last image in continuous image forming has been formed, is output (completion of image forming) in the case of the continuous image forming. After the completion of a predetermined backward rotation step, the drive of the main motor is stopped, and the image forming apparatus is kept in the standby (waiting) state until the next image-forming starting signal is input.

Please amend the following paragraph starting at page 14, line 24 and ending at page 15, line 6 with:

As to the charging system transition at the time of normal image forming, as shown in Fig. 3A, AC charging ([A]) a first voltage containing an AC component and a DC component is applied to the charging roller 2([I]) starts at the start of the forward rotation, the AC charging is continued without being stopped in the image forming operation with two sheets, and bias application to the charger is turned into an OFF state at the time of the completion of the backward rotation.

Please amend the following paragraph starting at page 17, line 24 and ending at page 18, line 17 with:

Further, it is made possible that a user can make an arbitrary selection on whether or not the normal image forming operation is performed (Fig. 3A) or the cleaning promoting sequence is performed (Fig. 3B). That is, there are provided control means (a

control circuit) 14 at a control part, which prolongs the image bearing member rotation time at the time of non-image forming aside from the normal image forming operation and switches the applied bias to the charging means to only the DC component, and control mode selection means, which prolongs the image bearing member rotation time at the time of non-image forming by means of the control means 14 and with which the user can make arbitrary selection on whether or not the cleaning promoting sequence is performed or the normal image forming operation is performed. The control mode selection means can be provided in an appropriate form of a touch panel type, switch type, or the like with respect to an operation panel (not shown in the figure) in the image forming apparatus.

Please amend the following paragraph starting at page 18, line 27 and ending at page 19, line 13 with:

The study results are shown in Table 1. In ~~table~~ Table 1, o denotes pass, while x ~~denotes~~ denotes fail. According to the study, lengthwise streaks were generated due to the cleaning failure from the time when 4,000 sheets have been passed in the normal image forming sequence, but the cleaning failure did not occur in the cleaning promoting sequence. It is apparent from the study that, even in the situation in which the cleaning failure is apt to occur due to deterioration of an edge of the cleaning blade or deterioration of slipping property of the photosensitive drum surface in the latter half of the life, the cleaning promoting sequence can avoid the cleaning failure.

Please amend the following paragraph starting at page 24, line 7 and ending at page 25, line 3 with:

With the use of the above-mentioned means, the cleaning promoting sequence is performed only in a low-temperature environment where following property of the cleaning blade with urethane rubber lowers with respect to vibration of the drum and the cleaning failure of the image ~~baring~~ bearing member is apt to occur, in a low-moisture environment where a charge amount of the developer increases the waste developer becomes difficult to be peeled off from the image bearing member due to an electric force and the cleaning failure of the image bearing member is apt to occur, and at the time of detection of high-printing image forming in which a large amount of transfer residual developer is generated due to the print rate detecting means; and the cleaning failure of the image bearing member is apt to occur. Therefore, the cleaning promoting duration is not entered unnecessarily, and the lowering of the print output speed due to the beginning of the cleaning promoting duration is avoided as much as possible. As a result, cleaning of the image bearing member can be performed with efficiency.